

Claims:

1. A method of treatment of a patient having atrial tachyarrhythmias, comprising:
  - 5 selecting a set of hemostats having elongated opposing jaws each carrying means for applying ablation energy along the jaws, the set of hemostats including at least one hemostat having jaws with straight segments and at least two hemostats having jaws with curved segments of differing radii of curvature;
  - 10 successively selecting individual hemostats within the set of hemostats and arranging the jaws of the selected individual hemostats along opposite sides of walls of the patient's atria and applying ablation energy to the walls of the patient's atria by means of the applying means to create lines of lesion corresponding generally to incisions employed in a Maze type surgical procedure.
2. A method as in claim 1, wherein arranging the jaws of the selected individual hemostats comprises inserting one jaw of a selected individual hemostat within a chamber of one of the patient's atria.
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3. A method as in claim 2 wherein inserting one jaw of a selected individual hemostat comprises inserting the jaw through a wall of the chamber.
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4. A method as in claim 3 wherein inserting one jaw of a selected individual hemostat comprises inserting the jaw through an incision through the wall of the chamber.
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5. A method as in claim 3 or claim 4 wherein arranging the jaws comprises compressing the wall of the chamber between the jaws of the selected individual hemostat
6. A method as in claim 5, comprising removal of the patient's atrial appendages.

7. A method as in any of claims 1 - 4, comprising removal of the patient's atrial appendages.

8. A method as in any of claims 1 – 4, wherein selecting individual hemostats comprises selecting bipolar electrosurgical hemostats having electrodes extending along the straight and curved segments of their jaws.

9. A method as in claim 8 wherein selecting individual hemostats comprises selecting hemostats having means for delivery of conductive fluid along the electrodes.

10. A method as in any of claims 1 – 4, further comprising employing cryoablation to complete at least one line of lesion.

15 11. A method as in any of claims 1 – 4, further comprising employing a surgical incision to complete at least one line of lesion.

12. A system for treatment of atrial tachyarrhythmias, comprising:  
a set of hemostats having having elongated opposing jaws extending distally,  
the jaws each carrying means for applying ablation energy along their lengths,  
including at least one hemostat having jaws with straight segments and at least two  
hemostats having jaws with curved segments of different radii of curvature selected to  
allow arrangement of the jaws of along opposite sides of walls of a patient's atrium  
such that by applying of ablation energy to the walls with the applying means, lines of  
lesion corresponding generally to incisions employed in a Maze type procedure may  
be produced.

13. A system as in claim 12, wherein the set of hemostats comprises bipolar  
electrosurgical hemostats having electrodes extending along the straight and curved  
segments of their jaws.

14. A system as in claim 13, wherein the set of hemostats comprises hemostats having means for delivery of conductive fluid along the electrodes.